



**Pacific  
Northwest**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Institute for  
**INTEGRATED  
CATALYSIS**

# Next-Generation Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR)- Dosing System Investigation

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ACE027

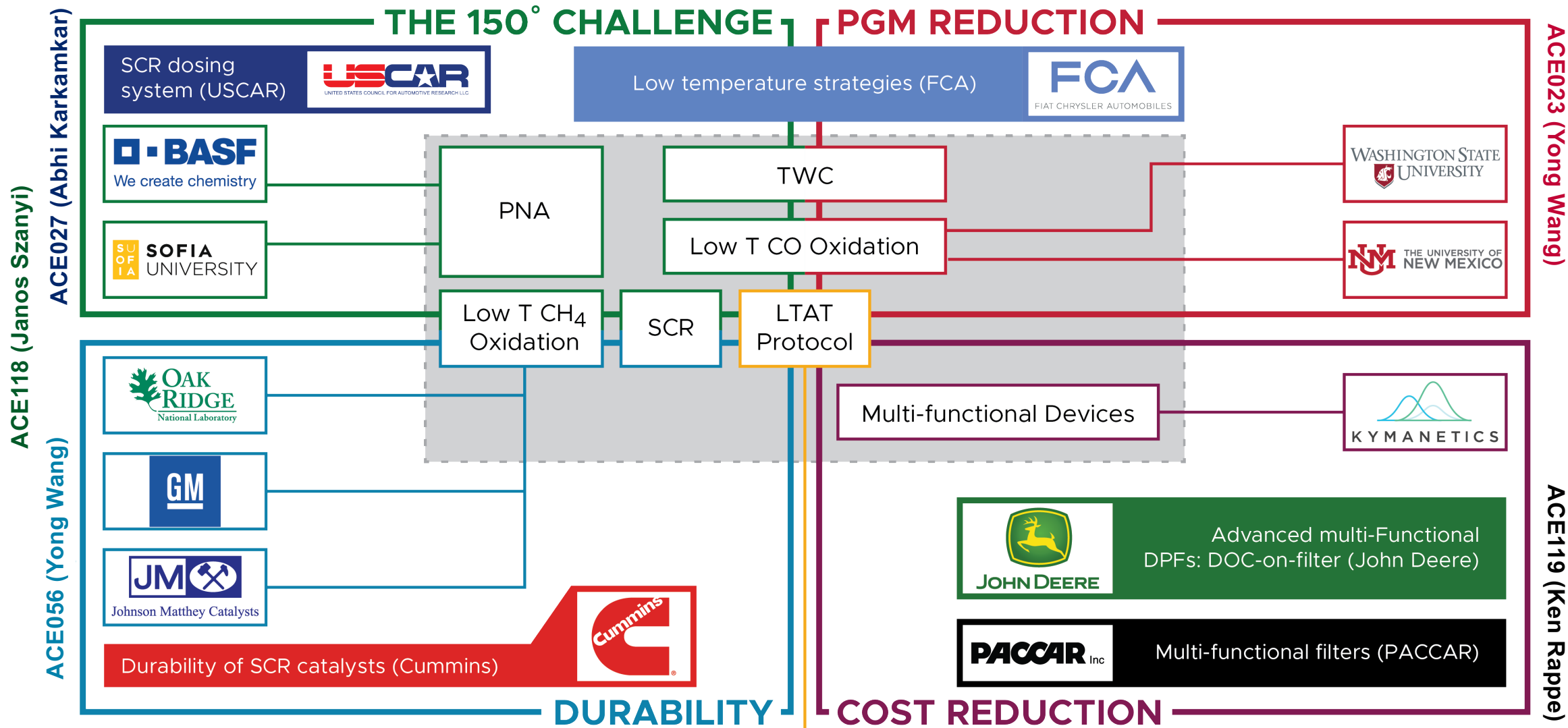
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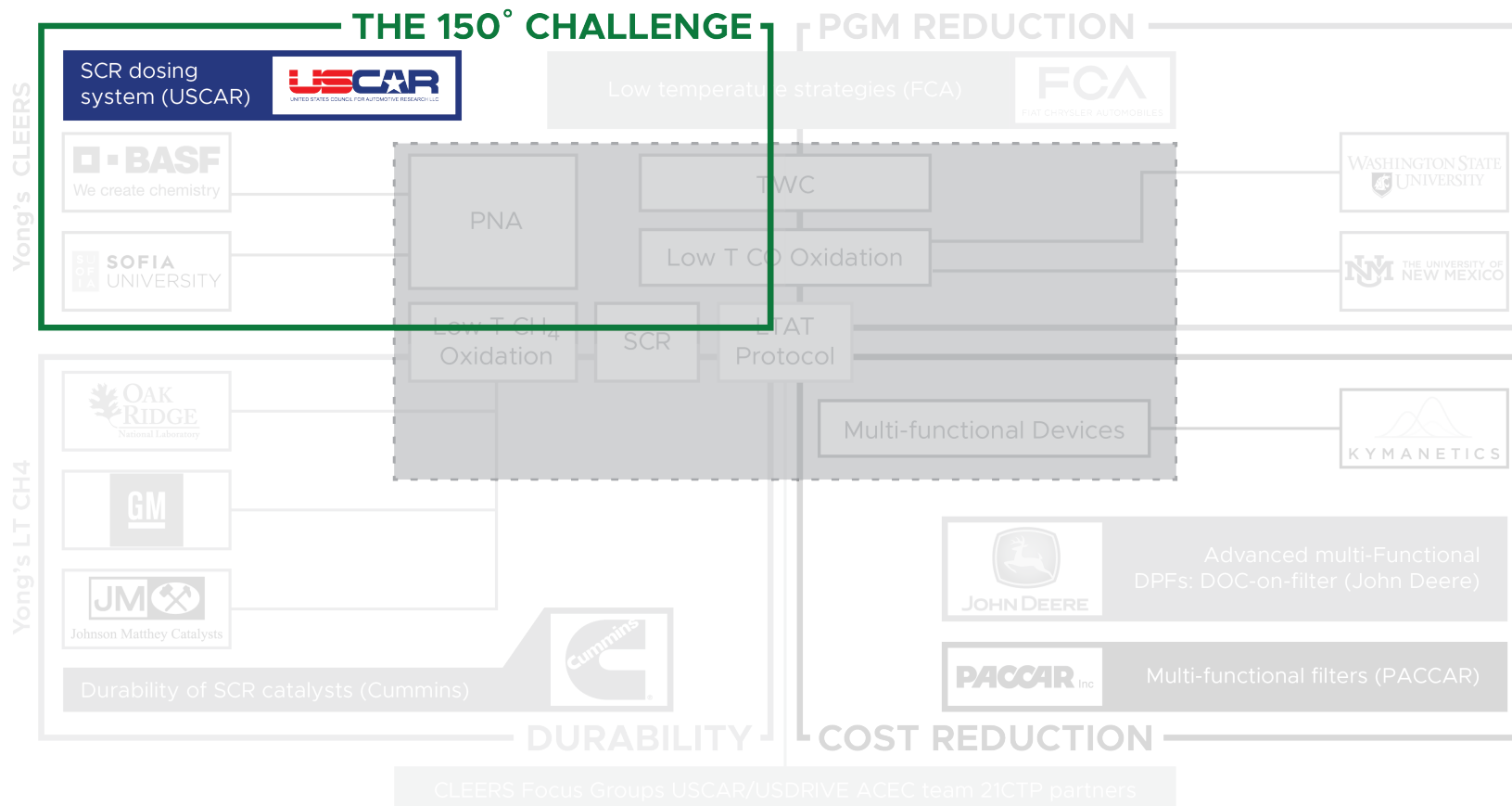
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# PNNL Fundamental and CRADA Projects Address the 150°C Challenge, PGM Reduction, Durability, and Cost - Exemplified by 5 AMR Presentations



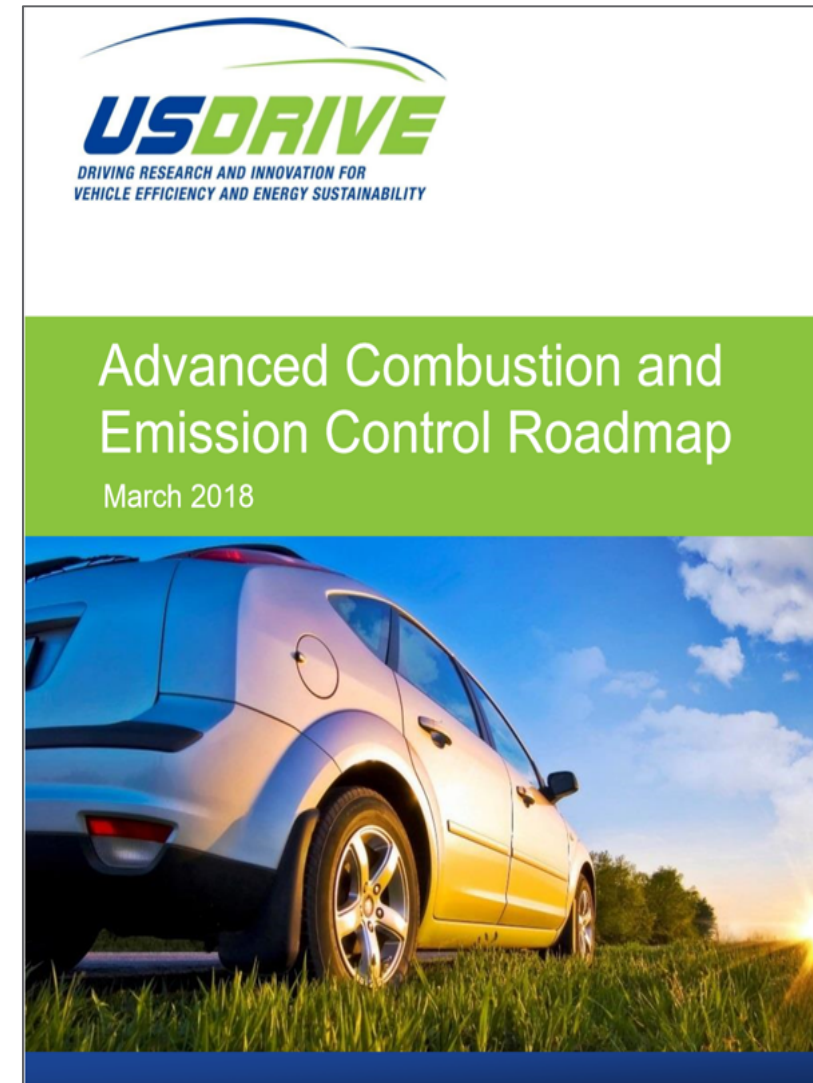
# SCR Dosing System for Addressing the 150 °C Challenge



PNNL objective is the **synthesis and evaluation of novel materials for onboard ammonia storage** in collaboration with USCAR

## Relevance

- Increasing the efficiency of internal combustion engines is limited by the temperature at which the exhaust emission aftertreatment can operate
- Compliance U.S. EPA Tier 3 Bin 30 emission standards
  - Low-temperature emissions aftertreatment
  - Reduced engine-out NOx and particulate emissions
  - Reduced cold start emissions
- New material combinations are needed for lower temperature catalytic performance, increased selectivity to inert species, and optimal storage and delivery of reductant species



## Timeline

- ▶ Status:
  - Start date – Oct. 2017
  - End date – Sept. 2020

## Budget

- ▶ FY18-FY20 - \$600K
- ▶ FY20 funding - \$200K

## Barriers

- ▶ Lack of cost-effective emission control
- ▶ Durability of emissions control devices
- ▶ Effective dissemination of information
- ▶ New materials to address the 150 °C

## Partners

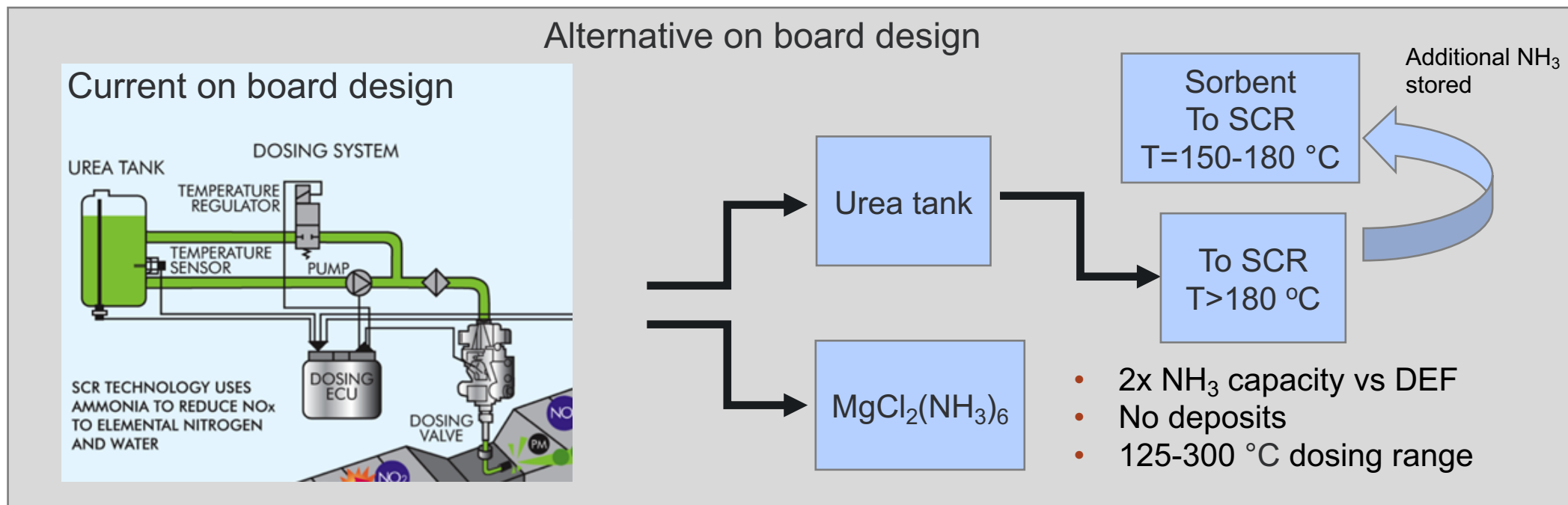
- ▶ U.S. Car SCR working group
- ▶ Cummins



# Technical Milestones

Milestone Description		Date	Status
Milestone	Synthesis and evaluation of at least 5 oxide-based ammonia storage materials	9/30/2019	√
Milestone	Down selection of next generation ammonia storage materials	3/30/2020	√
Milestone	Determine thermodynamic and kinetic parameters	6/30/2020	On track
Milestone	Down select based on thermodynamic/kinetic studies for optimization	9/30/2020	On track

# Approach



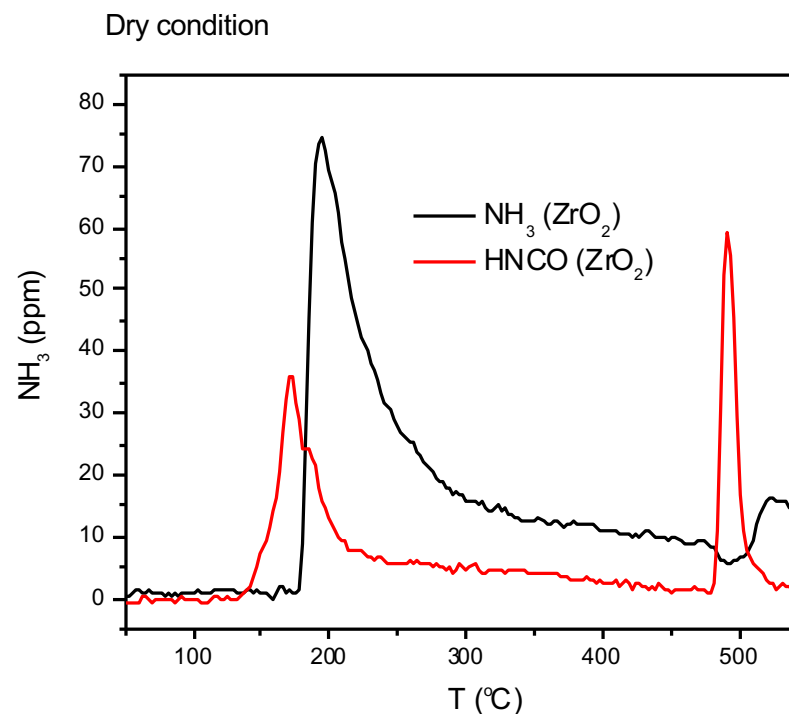
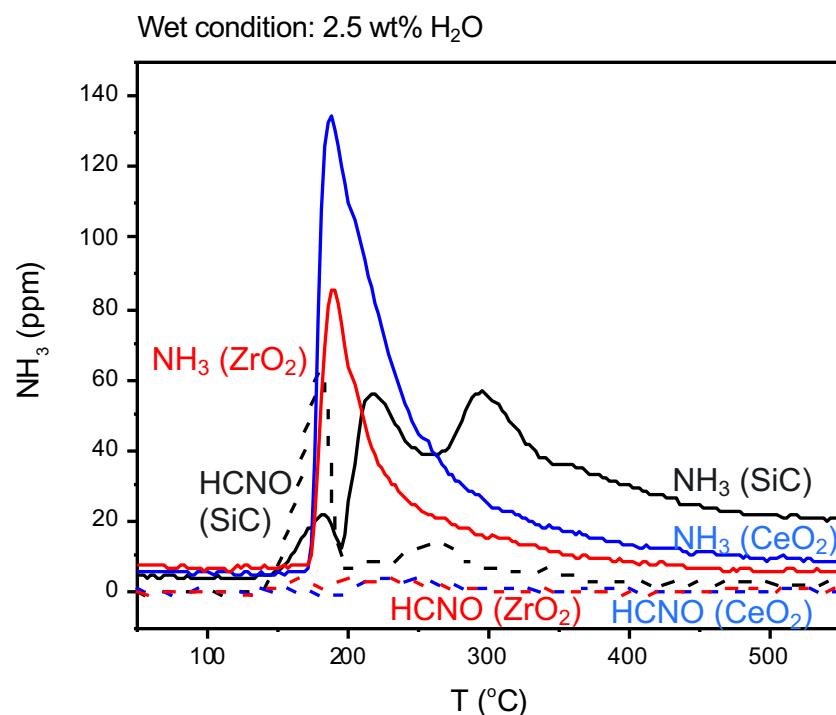
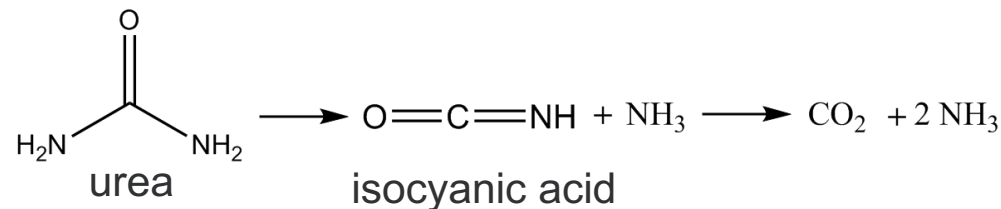
Synthesize new materials to improve existing ammonia delivery methods (USCAR and industry feedback)

- Develop pathways to catalytic urea hydrolysis enabling NH<sub>3</sub> delivery at 150 °C, or
- Develop approaches to store ammonia from aqueous urea to be delivered at the currently challenging 150-180 °C temperature range

We will address difference between a proposed system compared to existing Urea/water systems, however, system investigations are beyond the scope of the current project

# Technical Accomplishments: urea hydrolysis

## Isocyanic acid can be avoided with proper catalyst



Conditions:  
50 mg catalyst, 2.5 mg urea,  
360 sccm N<sub>2</sub>, 40 sccm O<sub>2</sub>,  
5 °C/min (50 to 550 °C)

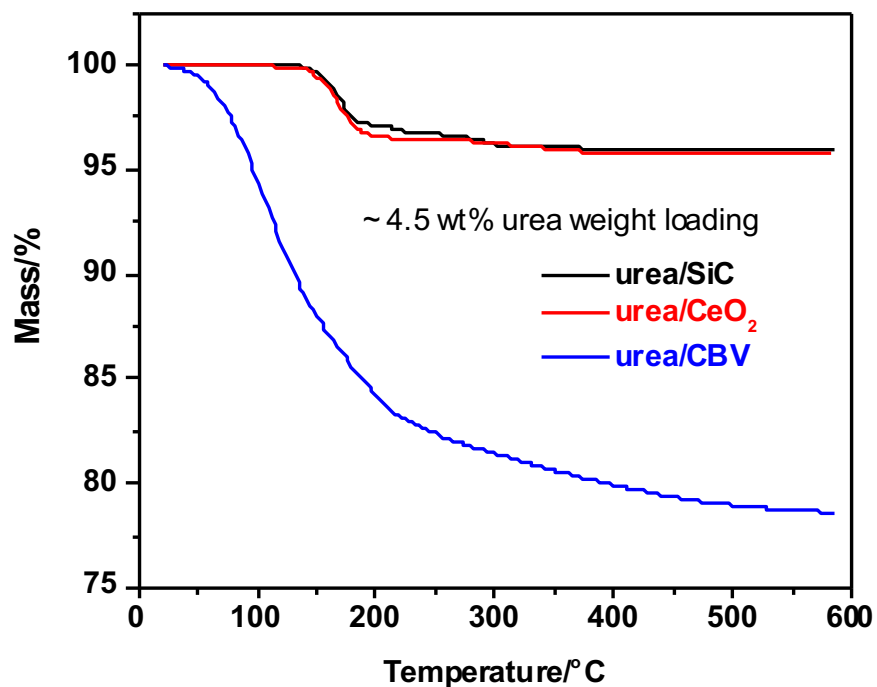
- Elimination of HCNO is key to solving onboard NH<sub>3</sub> storage and deposit mitigation
- Evaluating ambient condition NH<sub>3</sub> sorption and release



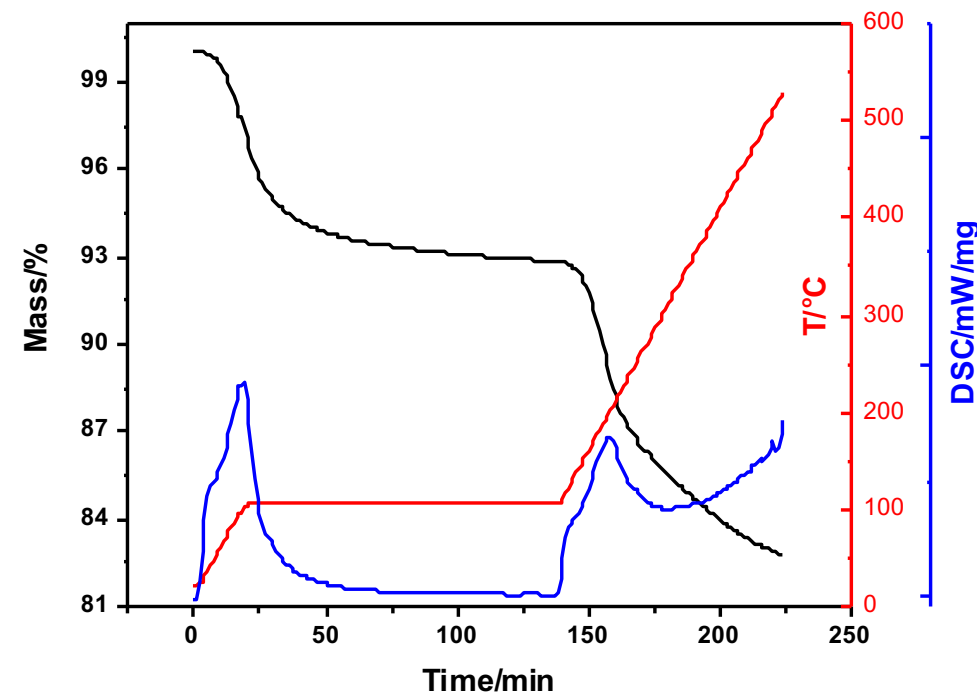
## Technical Accomplishments: urea hydrolysis

# Zeolite catalysts show enhanced decomposition

Differential Scanning Calorimetry Thermo Gravimetric Analysis (DSC/TGA) of urea-loaded SiC, CeO<sub>2</sub> and CBV



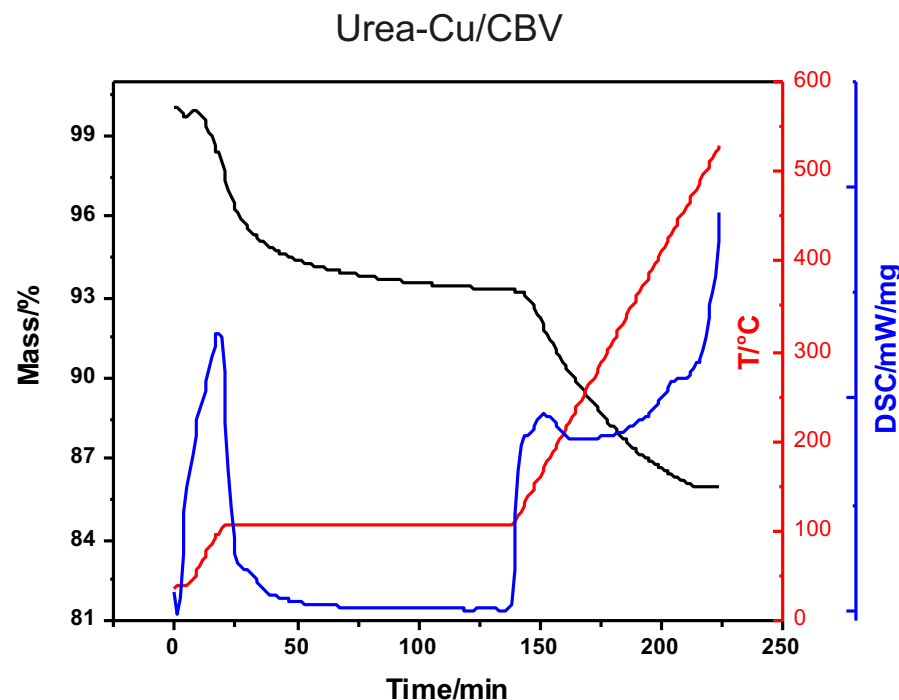
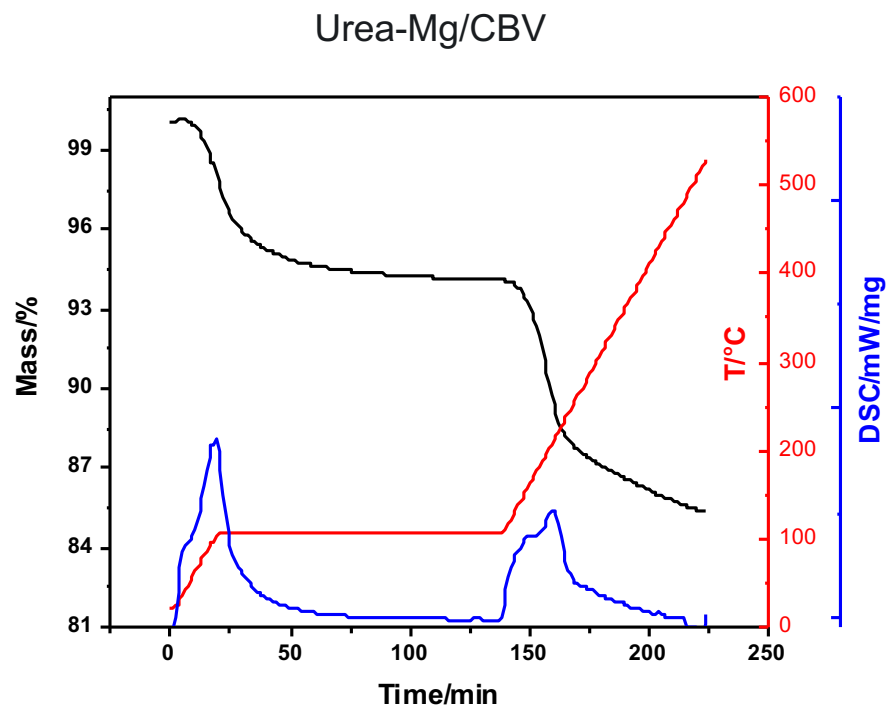
- Zeolite based catalysts show enhanced thermal decomposition of urea under dry conditions



- Zeolite-based catalysts lower the temperature of decomposition

Conditions: 50 mg catalyst, 2.5 mg urea (4.75%), 5 °C/min, in N<sub>2</sub>

### DSC-TGA of urea-loaded Mg/CBV and Cu/CBV



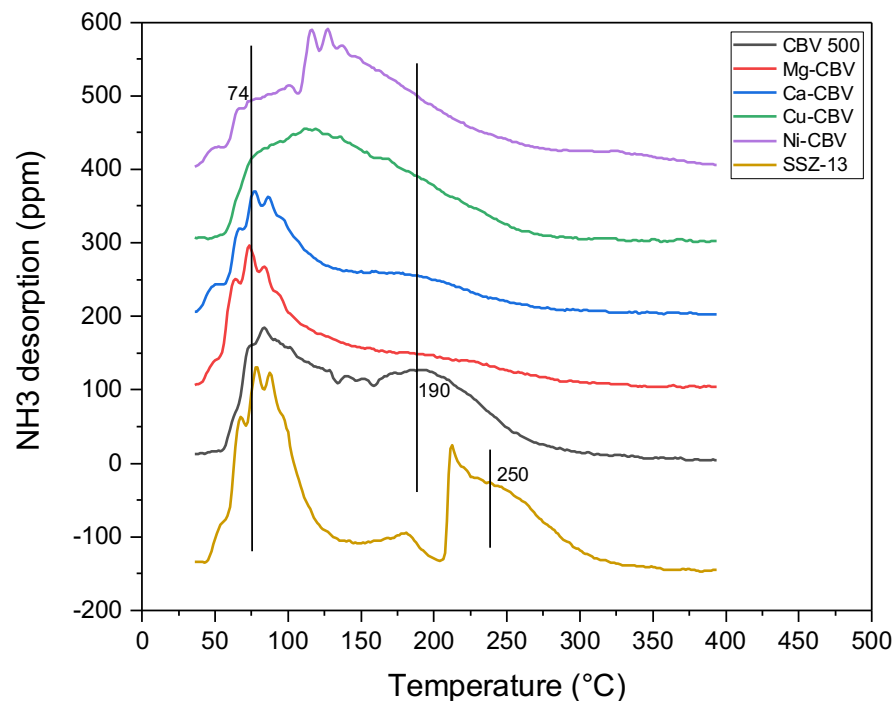
- Enthalpy of  $\text{NH}_3$  generated from Mg exchanged zeolite is lower than that from Cu exchanged zeolite

Conditions: 50 mg catalyst, 2.5 mg urea (4.75%), 5 °C/min, in  $\text{N}_2$

# Technical Accomplishments: $\text{NH}_3$ storage material

## Mg and Ca addition to zeolite shifts $\text{NH}_3$ desorption to lower temperatures

### $\text{NH}_3$ Temperature Programmed Desorption (TPD) Studies of Modified Zeolites



Sample	$\text{NH}_3$ storage (umol/g)
CBV-500	996
Mg-CBV500	688
Ca-CBV-500	652
Cu-CBV-500	773
Ni-CBV-500	913
0.05% Cu-SSZ-13	927

Amount of  $\text{NH}_3$  adsorbed on Zeolite CBV-500 and metal modified zeolites

- Cu and Ni zeolites are not as effective as Mg and Cu
- SSZ-13 is worse than CBV 500

$\text{NH}_3$ -TPD curves of different metal loaded CBV-500, and Cu-SSZ-13;  $\text{NH}_3$  adsorption and purging at 35 °C prior to TPD

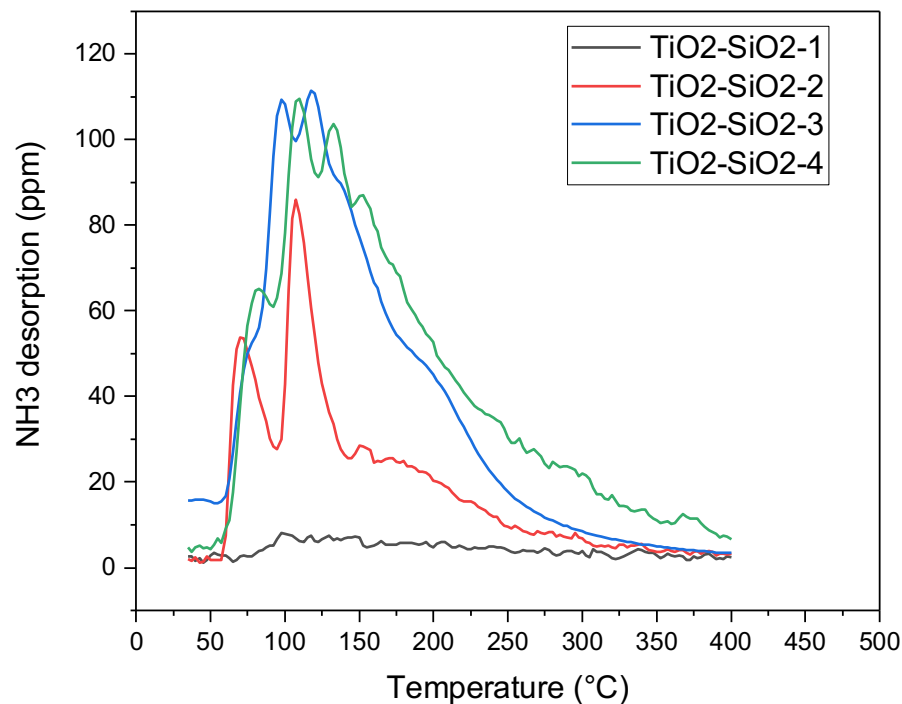
Conditions:  
60mg catalysts, (60-80mesh);  $\text{NH}_3$  saturated and purged at 35 °C; TPD 35 - 600 °C at 5 °C /min;  $\text{N}_2$  = 300 cc/min



## Technical Accomplishments: $\text{NH}_3$ storage material

# $\text{TiO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$ releases $\text{NH}_3$ at lower temperature but its capacity is lower than zeolites

## $\text{NH}_3$ Temperature Programmed Desorption (TPD) Studies of Titania Modified Silicates



Sample $\text{TiO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$ (%)	$\text{NH}_3$ storage ( $\mu\text{mol/g}$ )
1 (0%)	61.9
2(10%)	445.7
3(20%)	812.8
4(30%)	871.5

Amount of  $\text{NH}_3$  adsorbed on  $\text{TiO}_2$  doped  $\text{SiO}_2$  material at different  $\text{TiO}_2$  percentages: 0, 10%, 20%, 30%.

- $\text{TiO}_2\text{-SiO}_2$  materials show weaker binding of  $\text{NH}_3$  as compared to the strongly acidic zeolites

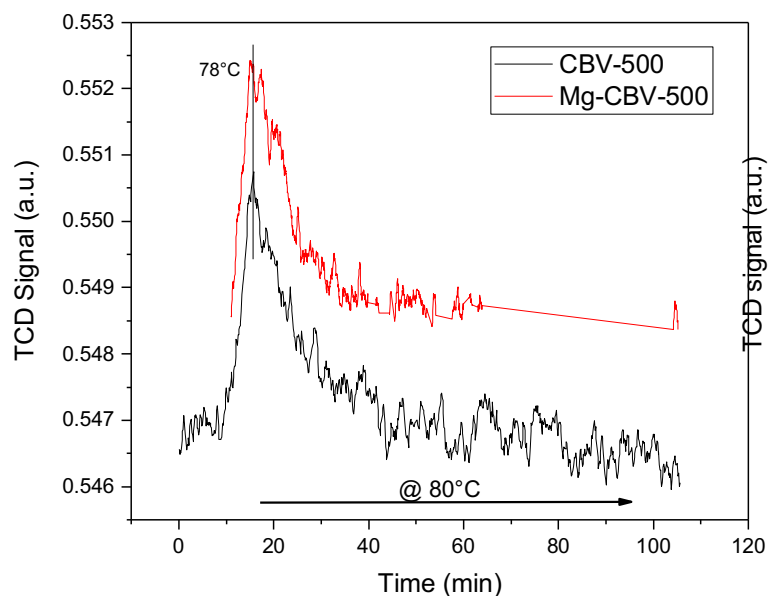
$\text{NH}_3$ -TPD curves on  $\text{TiO}_2$  doped  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$  percentages: 0, 10%, 20%, 30%,  $\text{NH}_3$  adsorption and purging at 35 °C prior to TPD

Conditions:  
60mg catalysts, (60-80mesh);  $\text{NH}_3$  saturated and purged at 35 °C; TPD 35 - 600 °C at 5 °C /min;  $\text{N}_2$  = 300 cc/min

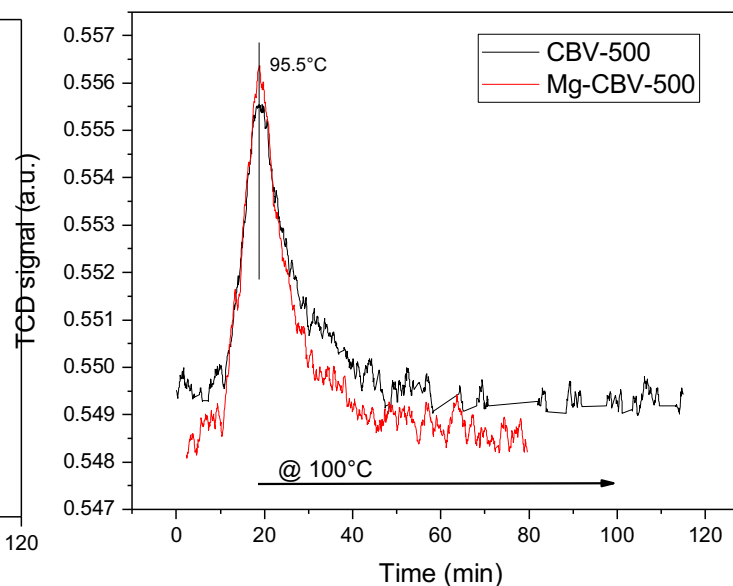
# Technical Accomplishments: $\text{NH}_3$ storage material

## Mg zeolite has no impact on low temperature release kinetics as compared to pristine zeolite

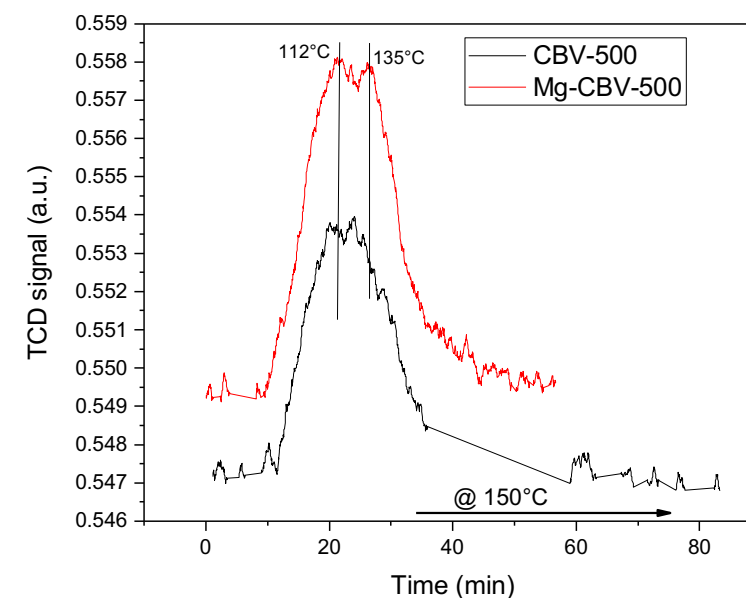
$\text{NH}_3$ -TPD desorption curves at isothermal temperatures: 80 °C.



$\text{NH}_3$ -TPD desorption curves at isothermal temperatures: 100 °C.



$\text{NH}_3$ -TPD desorption curves at isothermal temperatures: 150 °C.



- Studies on other ion-exchanged zeolites underway

Conditions:

60mg catalysts, (60-80mesh);  $\text{NH}_3$  saturated and purged at 35 °C; TPD 35 - 600 °C at 5 °C /min;  $\text{N}_2$  = 300 cc/min

# Responses to Previous Year Reviewers' Comments

## Reviewers' Comments

Is gaseous ammonia delivery the right path forward for low-temperature NO<sub>x</sub> abatement given the market share of Amminex or similar technologies and the existing infrastructure for DEF/urea water solution.

Solid sorbents have been around for a while now. Consulting with the industry for advice on what materials have already been studied and what needs to be avoided so as not to repeat prior work

That it would be very useful to put the results generated so far into context by comparison with the current state of the art. The NH<sub>3</sub> adsorption studies on various materials are difficult to judge unless compared to the targets set by commercial applications (such as how much NH<sub>3</sub> is needed over a drive cycle or through urea delivery via DEF today.

## PNNL Responses

We are working on evaluating ammonia storage from urea/water system which can enable low temperature dosing in two regimes:

- 150-180 °C where urea/water is not feasible, but SCR catalysts are functional
- <150 °C for low temperature SCR activity in future
- We are evaluating catalytic hydrolysis of urea

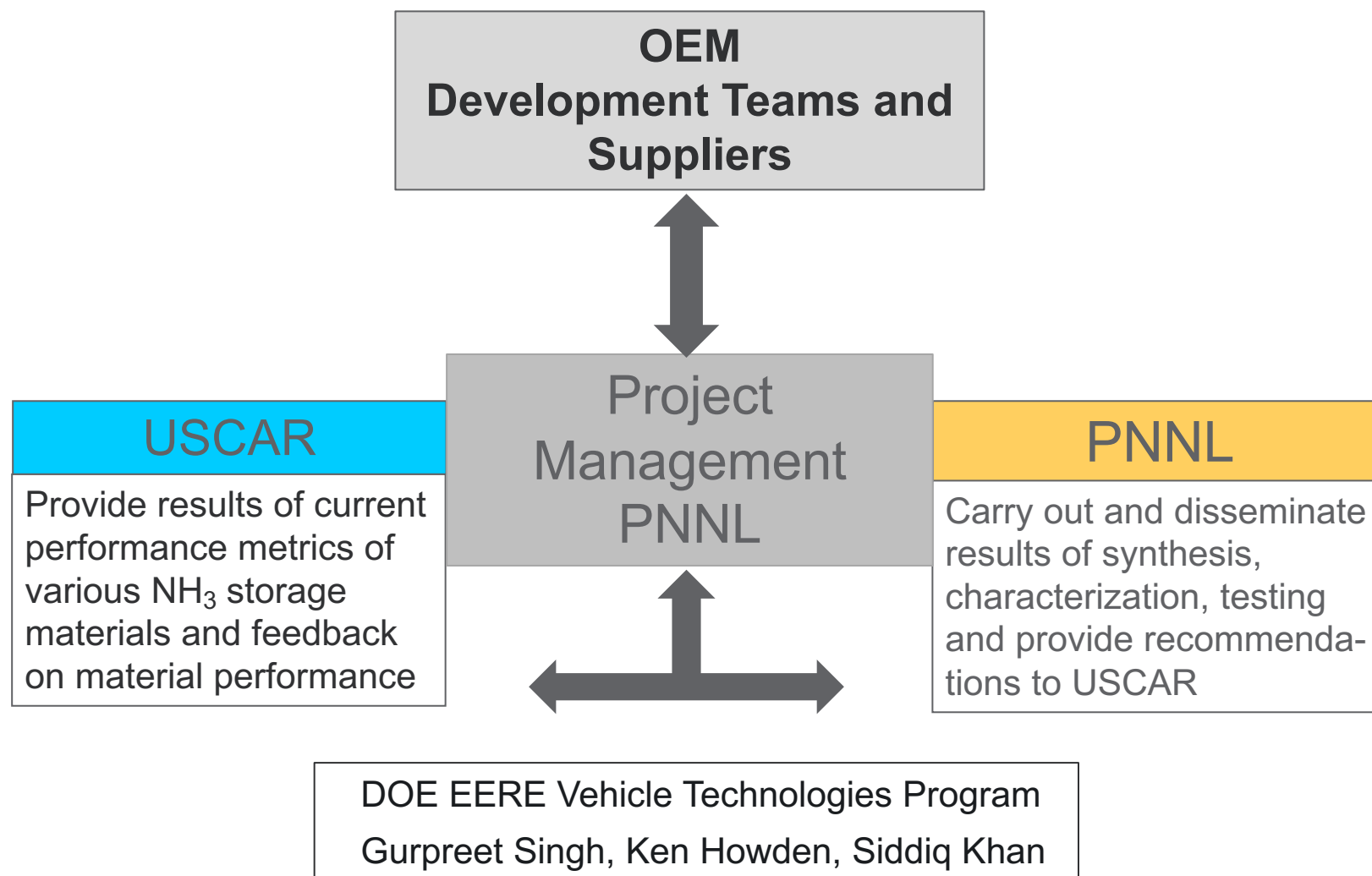
We are consulting with additional industrial contacts for advice including engine companies, heavy duty and light duty manufacturers

See table

	USCAR FTP cycle
Total NH <sub>3</sub>	4.8 g
Avg. mass flow	3.1 mg/s
Peal flow	22.6 mg/s
Cycle length	1399 sec



# Collaborations/ Interactions



## Collaborators/ Coordination

- USCAR/SCR working group
- Cummins: Consulting
- Future: PACCAR, Faurecia, Umicore

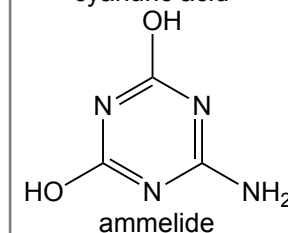
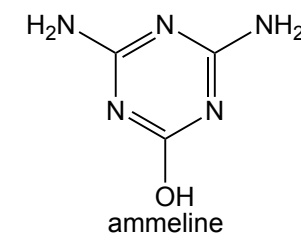
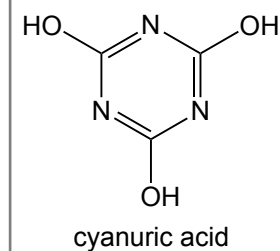
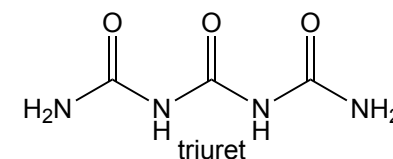
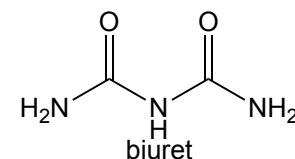
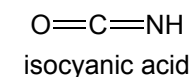
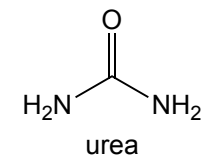
## Communication plan

- Monthly updates and teleconference with USCAR PI
- Bi-annual face-to-face meeting with USCAR SCR team

# Remaining Challenges and Barriers

- Mechanistic understanding of mitigation of isocyanic acid byproducts such as biuret and ammeline
- Understanding the impact of metal ion loading on ammonia storage and release
- Impact of water and CO<sub>2</sub> on NH<sub>3</sub> storage and release.

## Urea hydrolysis intermediates with isocyanic acid



A.M. Bernhard et al. / Applied Catalysis B: Environmental  
115–116 (2012) 129–137

## Proposed Future Work

- Evaluate catalytic urea hydrolysis performances at temperatures between 130-180 °C
- Determine pathways to mitigate HCNO and biurets formation
- Modification of zeolites to enhance ammonia storage capacity and release kinetics
- Study the effect of water and CO<sub>2</sub> on ammonia storage capacity

*Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels*



# Summary

## Urea hydrolysis

- Completed initial evaluation of catalytic urea hydrolysis
  - Preliminary studies show decreased formation of isocyanic acid during catalytic hydrolysis
  - Metal oxide ( $\text{CeO}_2$  and  $\text{ZrO}_2$ ) show no isocyanic acid formation
  - No decrease in temperature of urea hydrolysis

## $\text{NH}_3$ storage material

- Ion exchanged zeolite materials provide ability to tune temperature of  $\text{NH}_3$  delivery
  - Mg and Ca exchanged zeolite show lower capacity and temperature for  $\text{NH}_3$  release
  - $\text{TiO}_2$ - $\text{SiO}_2$  materials show weaker binding of  $\text{NH}_3$  as compared to zeolites



# Thank you





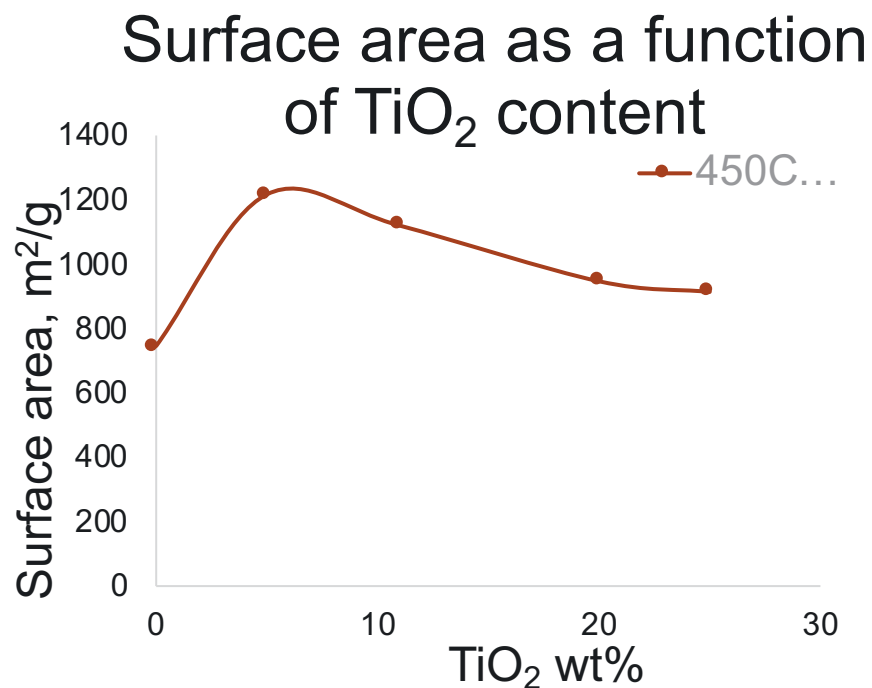
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# Technical Backup Slides



# Surface area as a function of TiO<sub>2</sub> content and calcination temperature

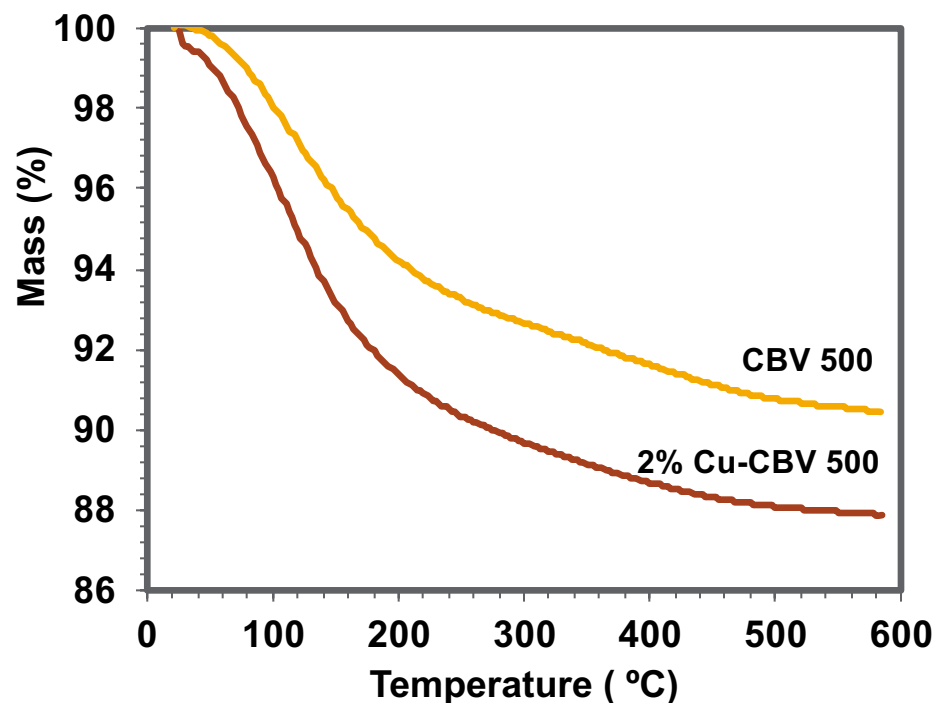


TiO <sub>2</sub> wt%	Calcination temperature, °C	Surface area, m <sup>2</sup> /g	pore size, Å
0	450	746	17
0	550	649	
5	450	1217	20
5	550	1082	
11	450	1120	24
11	550	1013	
20	450	947	27
20	550	911	
25	450	914	30
25	550	705	

The surface area decreases as the calcination temperature increases. Addition of TiO<sub>2</sub> to SiO<sub>2</sub> not only increases the surface area but also improves the thermal stability of the material.

# Screening of NH<sub>3</sub> adsorption on porous materials

Differential Scanning Calorimetry Thermo Gravimetric Analysis (DSC/TGA) of NH<sub>3</sub>-loaded CBV

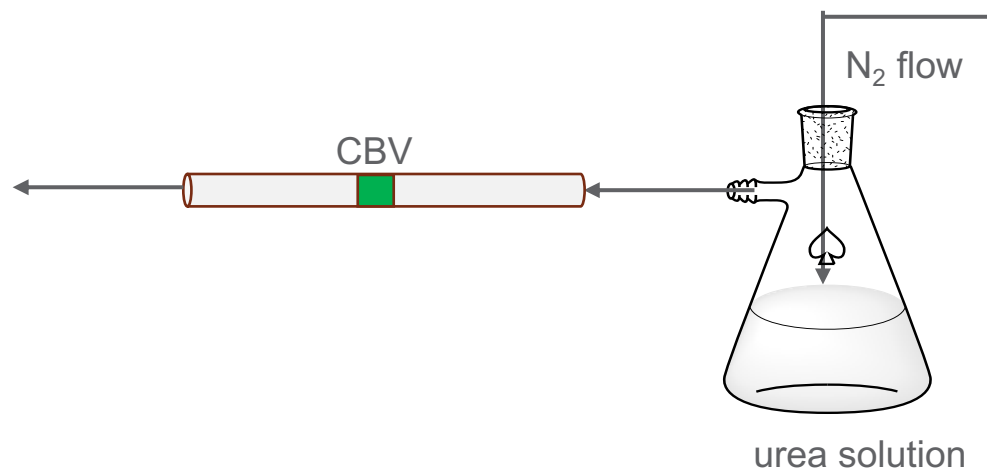


Materials	NH <sub>3</sub> capacity (Wt%)	Impregnation method
MCM-41	4.55	
Al-MCM-41	5.55	Incipient wetness
Zeolite Y CBV500	9.55	
2%Cu_zeolite Y CBV500	12.13	Incipient wetness
Ca_zeolite Y CBV 500	16.68	Ion-exchange
Montmorillonite_AR	3.62	
Cu_montmorillonite	7.10	Ion-exchange

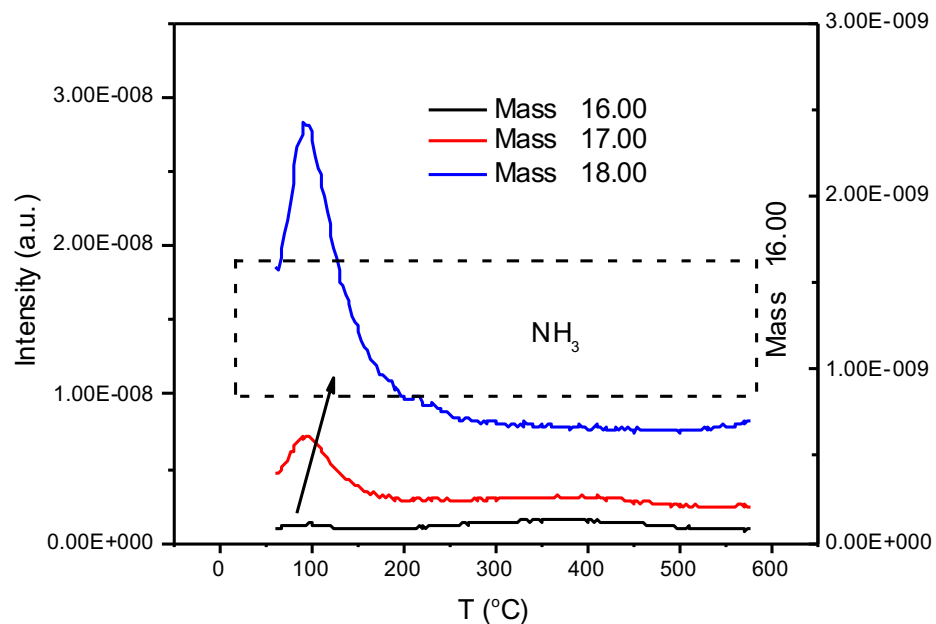
- We screened several classes of oxide based materials for NH<sub>3</sub> uptake and release

# Proposed Future Work

## Flow-through Urea decomposition studies



Dry at 80 °C overnight before test



30 °C, 24 h

